United Nations

Daily Highlights

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MONDAY'S HIGHLIGHTS

+ IAEA Board of Governors, in resolution adopted today, says Democratic People's Republic of Korea remains in non-compliance with nuclear safeguards agreement and has aggravated situation by not cooperating with IAEA inspectors; calls on country to permit all requested inspection activities and to comply fully with safeguards agreement.

+ On International Day for Elimination of Apartheid, Secretary-General says democratic process has defeated racial discrimination in South Africa.

+ ONUSAL hails yesterday's elections in El Salvador, praising "maturity and civic judgement" of electorate; notes lack of major incidents at 355 voting centres.

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The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) today determined that the Democratic People's Republic of Korea remained in non-compliance with its safeguards agreement and had aggravated that situation by not allowing IAEA inspectors to conduct indispensable inspection activities during their recent visit to the country. In a resolution adopted by its Board of Governors in Vienna today, the IAEA said it was thus unable to verify that there had been no diversion of nuclear material to nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices since its last inspection in 1993.

The IAEA expressed regret at the stalemate in its efforts to resolve the safeguards issue, as requested by the Security Council, because of the lack of cooperation by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. The Agency called on that country immediately to allow it to complete all requested inspection activities and to comply fully with the safeguards agreement.

(more)

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Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali said today that while violence and intimidation were a constant threat, the vision of South Africa's leaders, the will of its people and the support of the international community would enable the democratic process in that country to succeed. Speaking at a meeting held at Headquarters to commemorate the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrmination, the Secretary- General said it was through democracy that racial discrimination had been defeated in South Africa. The Day marks the anniversary of the Sharpeville Massacre in South Africa in 1960.

Also today General Assemby President S.R. Insanally said the eradication of apartheid in South Africa and the election of the country's first democratic Government would send a clear message to the world that reconcilation and harmony in a racially-mixed country were possible. However, he went on to say that more stringent measures must be taken to curb the political violence and intimidation which threatened the transition to democracy.

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The United Nations Observer Mission in El Salvador (ONUSAL) has welcomed yesterday's free elections in that country, noting that there had been no reports of major incidents. In a statement issued yesterday, the Mission congratulated the people of El Salvador for the maturity and civic judgement which they had demonstrated in the course of the elections.

ONUSAL said it would analyze information gathered by 900 observers in 355 voting centres and would soon declare its final opinion on the election.

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